

MEMBERS ANSWERS

HM/F - Early Usage

Following our enquiry in the last issue regarding early usage of this perfin, we have received two interesting replies from members. Harry Skinner reports an example on Edward VII ½d with a postmarkLKSTONE, dated AU 20 05, and Ted Francombe sent a photocopy of an example of the same stamp used on a post card postmarked Folkstone dated NO 20 03. So we have identified usage at last between 1903 and 1905 at Folkestone. Ted's example is on a picture post card and the message does not appear to be "official" in any way. Perhaps these are examples of illicit usage, but this does not explain the early usage. Was there an "His Majesty's Factory" in 1903/5, or is it a perfin of a firm HM of Folkestone?